

H.R. 5690, to adjust the boundaries of the Ouachita National Forest in the States of Oklahoma and Arkansas;

H.R. 6121, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize a program relating to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and for other purposes;

on Monday, December 4, 2006:

H.R. 3699, to provide for the sale, acquisition, conveyance, and exchange of certain real property in the District of Columbia to facilitate the utilization, development, and redevelopment of such property, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4377, to extend the time required for construction of a hydroelectric project, and for other purposes.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM MAJORITY LEADERS OF UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable WILLIAM FRIST, Majority Leader, United States Senate, and the Honorable JOHN BOEHNER, Majority Leader, United States House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, November 14, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 109-236, we hereby appoint the following individual to serve as a member of the MINER Act Technical Study Panel: Thomas P. Mucho of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM FRIST,  
Majority Leader, U.S.  
Senate.

JOHN BOEHNER,  
Majority Leader,  
House of Representatives.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE ADAM H. PUTNAM, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Amy Topol, Caseworker for the Honorable ADAM H. PUTNAM, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
House of Representatives, November 9, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil deposition subpoena, issued by the Circuit Court for Polk County, Florida, for documents and testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

AMY TOPOL,  
Caseworker.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE DENNIS J. KUCINICH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Malak Jadallah, District Office Congressional Staff of the Honorable DENNIS J. KUCINICH, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
House of Representatives, November 27, 2006.  
Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by rule VIII.

Sincerely,

MALAK JADALLAH,  
District Office Congressional Staff.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

#### EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING HIRING OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1070) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Members of the House should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to encourage the hiring of members and former members of the Armed Forces who were wounded in service and are facing a transition to civilian life, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 1070

Whereas United States soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines continue to make significant personal sacrifices to protect and defend the Nation;

Whereas since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in late 2001 over 1,406,000 members of the Armed Forces have served overseas in combat theaters of operations;

Whereas over 22,900 members of the Armed Forces have been wounded in theater and as a result of their injuries many have been separated from their respective service;

Whereas as a result of required separation from military service due to their injuries incurred while in service, these members of the Armed Forces are transitioning to civilian careers;

Whereas recent statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the transition from military service to a civilian career can

be difficult, with veterans who are age 20 through 24 experiencing a jobless rate 3 times the national average; and

Whereas Members of Congress could provide assistance in making businesses and employers aware of the unique skills of wounded veterans and thereby help reduce the jobless rate for wounded veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) Members of the House should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to encourage the hiring of members and former members of the Armed Forces who were wounded in service and are facing a transition to civilian life;

(2) a strong relationship should be forged between Congress, local businesses, and members and former members of the Armed Forces referred to in paragraph (1) towards the goal of finding employment for those who have sacrificed so much; and

(3) Members should carry out the types of activities described in this resolution in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and the Committee on House Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is really a pleasure to be down in the Chamber working this issue with the gentlewoman from Guam, for whom I have the utmost esteem. This is a very good cause we are talking about this morning.

Mr. Speaker, the Members of this House of Representatives spend a lot of time each year making recommendations and decisions that directly impact the lives of the men and women of the Armed Forces.

With the global war on terrorism, House Members have taken numerous actions as part of the annual defense authorization and defense appropriations acts to ensure that these fine men and women have the full range of resources they need to be successful in combat.

For those who are wounded and injured, and there have been more than 22,900 during this war, our colleagues have moved quickly and effectively to change laws and provide additional resources to improve the health care system. For as much as we in the House have done to support the men and women of the Armed Forces, I believe that more should be done and could be done, especially for those who have been wounded in defense of this Nation and who as a result of their wounds are leaving the service.

That is the purpose of this resolution today, to explicitly state that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that Members of the House should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to encourage the hiring of members and former members of the Armed Forces who were wounded in service and are facing a transition to civilian life.

Beyond the fact that getting involved is the right thing for Members to do, Members need to get more directly involved in helping wounded servicemembers transition to civilian life because young veterans, those aged 20 through 24, are experiencing a jobless rate three times the national average, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

We have all seen too many Vietnam-era homeless veterans in our districts, a reflection that the Nation then did not fully step up to doing what was necessary for those who serve the Nation. We should not repeat that mistake.

As I began 2 years ago to work this issue of finding ways to help soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines transition to civilian life, concerns were raised to me that such activity by a Member might conflict with the rules of conduct in this House, and I was surprised to hear that, Mr. Speaker, but that was the thrust of legal opinions.

I have worked with both the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and House Administration, as well as my good colleague, Representative IKE SKELTON, and other members of the committee to shape this resolution. Thus the resolution explicitly states that in encouraging potential employers and the American public to hire veterans, Members should act in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Committee on Standards and by House Administration, and, of course, we hope that after this resolution, which I hope will pass overwhelmingly, that we will see the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and House Administration accommodate this very important concern of ours.

□ 1030

Mr. Speaker, there are any number of Federal, State and local organizations and many private entities working to employ wounded servicemembers and former servicemembers. I think it is time for House Members to get involved and engaged in this effort, and therefore I strongly urge all Members to vote "yes" on this resolution.

Very simply, Mr. Speaker, this would allow a Member of Congress who goes down to Bethesda and Walter Reed and who meets maybe a young man or young woman getting out of the service, maybe as a diesel mechanic, to call up companies in their district and say, do you have any need for diesel mechanics? If they say yes, you marry up that member of the service and that particular business in your district, and they end up getting a job.

We all know that a lot of jobs in this country are custom made, that is, they

are the result of people getting together and having a cup of coffee or making a phone call, and that often starts a career which may continue for 5, 10, 15, 20 years.

Members of Congress have great connections with the businesses in their district, and it is only appropriate that they be involved in this process of making sure that people that wear the uniform, when they get out, have a chance to get a piece of this great opportunity that we call America.

Mr. Speaker, having said that, I reserve the balance of my time. It is great to be here with the gentlewoman from Guam working on this important resolution.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, the chairman of the Armed Forces Committee, Mr. HUNTER of California, and the cosponsors of this resolution for introducing it.

I rise this morning in support of this resolution. It has been said that we often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude, and there is little doubt in our country today that the men and women who are serving our Nation in uniform deserve our deepest gratitude.

I support this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to do the same, because at its heart is the principle that when our veterans return from performing their duty, we in turn owe a duty to them to assist them in their transition from citizen soldier to life as a civilian.

For many veterans, Mr. Speaker, especially those who return wounded, the transition to civilian life can be rocky and challenging. This Congress has committed to provide every tool necessary to our warfighters so that they can overcome any obstacle that they face in combat.

This resolution in a specific employment sense seeks to encourage the application of the same vigor in supporting our wounded veterans in their efforts to overcome obstacles involved in returning to civilian life and securing civilian employment. But as in all things, there is no silver bullet to facilitate the transition from wounded hero to employed civilian.

This resolution reflects the importance of supporting the hurdle of finding employment. But before our war-wounded can even consider employment, our commitment must be to world-class medical treatment that returns the wounded to the greatest health possible before they can enter the workforce.

Similarly, while some wounds may heal quickly, many others endure. So we must work to ensure that a veterans health care system with the capability, the capacity and the care to provide continuing treatment to our veterans is always, always available.

Further, while many military skills are invaluable in the workplace, a commitment to education and training funding for veterans can be critical to

providing any opportunity, not just at employment, but at achieving continued advancement and new levels of financial and professional success.

I am proud of the record my colleagues have on championing these and so many related issues, and I know I speak for my colleagues in the upcoming Democratic majority in saying that we look forward to continuing and expanding our commitment to this full spectrum of care that our veterans deserve.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, we are reminded of the ethical mandates of service as Members of Congress, and I am reminded that I was sent to this great legislative body not to just use my position to influence others, but to legislate. So while I strongly support this resolution which encourages Members to use their personal influence to encourage employers to hire wounded veterans, the most important action for our Members will be continued and renewed vigor in our legislative efforts to support our veterans across the broad spectrum of support that they have earned.

I am proud, Mr. Speaker, of the record that employers in my home district, Guam, have established in supporting all veterans, but especially wounded veterans. My partnership with the Guam Chamber of Commerce has proved valuable to promoting such hiring practices, and I encourage all Members to so reach out on behalf of wounded veterans in their community.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman's very articulate remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. SEKULA GIBBS).

Ms. SEKULA GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the opportunity to address this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1070 and express my support with the Members of the House of Representatives that Americans should employ people who have served our country. We should actively engage with employers and the American public at large to hire members and former members of the Armed Forces, especially those who have been wounded in service to our country and are facing a transition into civilian life.

I am a physician and have had the opportunity to work in veterans hospitals across the country. I will tell you that there is no group of people more dedicated and more committed to the American way of life and our great country than people who have served in our military. Who knows more about hard work than the people who have worked hard in the military, the men and women in our Armed Forces who have spent time abroad and have faced danger in the battle zones in places like Afghanistan and Iraq?

After serving our country, these men and women deserve a right to find gainful employment and to support themselves and their families. These individuals have sacrificed so much so that all of us can enjoy our freedom, the freedoms that we hold dear.

I suggest that a college degree is very important to an employer and has value and intrinsic value, but also service in the military has that experiential value that an employer can find very, very important when selecting a valuable worker.

I have worked with organizations like Marine for Life and with an individual in the Houston area named Sergeant Tony Martin who helps find Marines jobs when they return from active service. These groups are to be supported. Look them up. Seek them out.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the passage of House Resolution 1070, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ms. SEKULA GIBBS and the gentlewoman from Guam, Ms. BORDALLO, for assisting in this important resolution. This is something that I think that the membership of this House can enter into with lots of enthusiasm, with lots of energy.

Mr. Speaker, no one knows the businesses better in our districts than Representatives. The ability to connect a wounded soldier, sailor, airman or marine with a business in their particular district is something that will have a far-reaching effect, a long-lasting effect. Because of some of the qualities of our service personnel, that is the discipline, the ability to be a self-starter, the knowledge that you have to get up early and show up on time, the discipline, the talent, all those things I think will create long-lasting employment if we do one thing, and that is help to marry up these great Americans with prospective employers. We are well situated to do that and hopefully will have a good vote in the full House to emphasize that point in the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and ask everyone to support this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1070, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those voting have responded in the affirmative.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the

Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### HENRY J. HYDE ROOM

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1087) designating Room H-139 of the Capitol as the "Henry J. Hyde Room".

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 1087

*Resolved, That—*

(1) Room H-139 of the Capitol shall be known and designated as the "Henry J. Hyde Room"; and

(2) this resolution shall take effect on the day following the date on which Henry J. Hyde is no longer serving as a Member of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1087 designates room H-139 of the United States Capitol as the HENRY J. HYDE Room. This designation will become effective January 3, 2007. It is an honor to speak today on this resolution, which is a tribute to one of the finest Members of this Chamber, Congressman HENRY HYDE.

Congressman HYDE has served this country well. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving in combat in the Philippines. When he retired, he held the rank of commander. He attended Loyola School of Law in 1949 and was a successful attorney in Illinois. He became a State legislator in 1966 and was eventually elected to be the majority leader of the Illinois House of Representatives. In 1975, he was elected to this Chamber by the good people of the Sixth District of Illinois and has served them well over the past 32 years.

Congressman HYDE has been a true champion and hero during his time in Congress. As chairman of the Judiciary Committee and International Relations Committee, Congressman HYDE has authored ground-breaking and effective legislation and has pushed for the promotion of democracy around the world.

Over the past 32 years, Congressman HYDE has served in this building with honor, respect, and prestige. It is only fitting that we name H-139 in his honor as a lasting tribute to his accomplishments and his steadfast dedication to his constituents and the American people.

I support this legislation and encourage all my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I was just walking out when I heard the gen-

tleman mention the great HENRY HYDE of Illinois, and I just wanted to add my words as a guy who watched him in monumental debates that affected this Nation and the world over the last 26 years.

□ 1045

HENRY HYDE has been a giant in the House of Representatives and in America, and I want to thank the gentleman.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Res. 1087 to designate room H-139 in the Capitol as the Henry J. Hyde Room. Congressman HYDE is widely respected and regarded on both sides of the aisle as an effective leader and able legislator. He has served with distinction for more than three decades, working to improve the lives of senior citizens, veterans and families of all sizes. He has focused on job creation and better education for all, better housing for senior citizens, and the needs of special education students.

During his tenure as the chairman of the House International Relations Committee, he focused his work on terrorism and, in particular, biological and chemical weapons threats. Congressman HYDE also served as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee from 1995 to 2001.

It is fitting and proper to honor the distinguished career of HENRY HYDE with this designation. I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to also support this resolution today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would also like to add to my first statement a little bit of litany of Mr. HYDE. He was my neighbor right next door to 2111 in the Rayburn Building. He was always good for a conversation but, most of all, good advice. He also has been one that has protected, or at least protected the unborn, and he has been to my State numerous times and has spoken eloquently and with forcefulness about their need to be protected.

He has been a friend of this body because he brought dignity, as I mentioned before, and the prestige of a gentleman but, more than that, a very intellectual individual that understood the issues.

So I am extremely proud today to support this legislation. I hope all my colleagues understand that we are losing a good colleague. Some of my colleagues that have left prior to this were not recognized by naming a room. It is just a small token of appreciation to someone who brought the needed, I think, gentleness to this body.

So it is with great honor that I support this legislation again.